

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION
INFORMATION LETTER

PUBLICATION OR REPRODUCTION NOT PERMITTED

No. 487

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August 16, 1933

**PRESIDENT'S REEMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT MODIFIED FOR
CANNING INDUSTRY**

The National Recovery Administration on August 11 formally approved changes in paragraphs 4 and 6 of the President's Reemployment Agreement as applied to the canning industry pending adoption of a Basic Code for the industry. The Association immediately mailed to all canners the text of the substitute paragraphs, along with information as to procedure in signing the Agreement, signing the certificate of compliance, and securing the NRA emblems.

Canners who sign the President's Reemployment Agreement thereby agree to *all* paragraphs therein with the exception of paragraphs 4 and 6, substitutes for which have been approved by the National Recovery Administration.

In order that Association members may have readily available for reference the complete text of the President's Reemployment Agreement, it is here reproduced. Following that are paragraphs 4 and 6 as amended and approved for the canning industry.

PRESIDENT'S REEMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

During the period of the President's emergency reemployment drive, that is to say, from August 1 to December 31, 1933, or to any earlier date of approval of a code of fair competition to which he is subject, the undersigned hereby agrees with the President as follows:

- (1) After August 31, 1933, not to employ any person under 16 years of age, except that persons between 14 and 16 may be employed (but not in manufacturing or mechanical industries) for not to exceed 3 hours per day and those hours between 7 a. m. and 7 p. m. in such work as will not interfere with hours of day school.
- (2) Not to work any accounting, clerical, banking, office, service, or sales employees (except outside salesmen) in any store, office, department, establishment, or public utility, or on any automotive or horse-drawn pas-

senger, express, delivery, or freight service, or in any other place or manner, for more than 40 hours in any 1 week and not to reduce the hours of any store or service operation to below 52 hours in any 1 week, unless such hours were less than 52 hours per week before July 1, 1933, and in the latter case not to reduce such hours at all.

(3) Not to employ any factory or mechanical worker or artisan more than a maximum week of 35 hours until December 31, 1933, but with the right to work a maximum week of 40 hours for any 6 weeks within this period; and not to employ any worker more than 8 hours in any 1 day.

(4) The maximum hours fixed in the foregoing paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not apply to employees in establishments employing not more than two persons in towns of less than 2,500 population which towns are not part of a larger trade area; nor to registered pharmacists or other professional persons employed in their profession; nor to employees in a managerial or executive capacity, who now receive more than \$35 per week; nor to employees on emergency maintenance and repair work; nor to very special cases where restrictions of hours of highly skilled workers on continuous processes would unavoidably reduce production, but, in any such special case, at least time and one third shall be paid for hours worked in excess of the maximum. Population for the purposes of this agreement shall be determined by reference to the 1930 Federal Census.

(5) Not to pay any of the classes of employees mentioned in paragraph (2) less than \$15 per week in any city of over 500,000 population, or in the immediate trade area of such city; nor less than \$14.50 per week in any city of between 250,000 and 500,000 population, or in the immediate trade area of such city; nor less than \$14 per week in any city of between 2,500 and 250,000 population, or in the immediate trade area of such city; and in towns of less than 2,500 population to increase all wages by not less than 20 percent, provided that this shall not require wages in excess of \$12 per week.

(6) Not to pay any employee of the classes mentioned in paragraph (3) less than 40 cents per hour unless the hourly rate for the same class of work on July 15, 1929, was less than 40 cents per hour, in which latter case not to pay less than the hourly rate on July 15, 1929, and in no event less than 30 cents per hour. It is agreed that this paragraph establishes a guaranteed minimum rate of pay regardless of whether the employee is compensated on the basis of a time rate or on a piecework performance.

(7) Not to reduce the compensation for employment now in excess of the minimum wages hereby agree to (notwithstanding that the hours worked in such employment may be hereby reduced) and to increase the pay for such employment by an equitable readjustment of all pay schedules.

(8) Not to use any subterfuge to frustrate the spirit and intent of this agreement which is, among other things, to increase employment by a universal covenant, to remove obstructions to commerce, and to shorten hours and to raise wages for the shorter week to a living basis.

(9) Not to increase the price of any merchandise sold after the date hereof over the price on July 1, 1933, by more than is made necessary by actual increases in production, replacement, or invoice costs of merchandise, or by taxes or other costs resulting from action taken pursuant to the Agricultural Adjustment Act, since July 1, 1933, and, in setting such price increases, to give full weight to probable increases in sales volume and to refrain from taking profiteering advantage of the consuming public.

(10) To support and patronize establishments which also have signed

this agreement and are listed as members of N.R.A. (National Recovery Administration).

(11) To cooperate to the fullest extent in having a code of fair competition submitted by his industry at the earliest possible date, and in any event before September 1, 1933.

(12) Where, before June 16, 1933, the undersigned had contracted to purchase goods at a fixed price for delivery during the period of this agreement, the undersigned will make an appropriate adjustment of said fixed price to meet any increase in cost caused by the seller having signed this President's Reemployment Agreement or having become bound by any code of fair competition approved by the President.

(13) This agreement shall cease upon approval by the President of a code to which the undersigned is subject; or, if the N.R.A. so elects, upon submission of a code to which the undersigned is subject and substitution of any of its provisions for any of the terms of this agreement.

(14) It is agreed that any person who wishes to do his part in the President's reemployment drive by signing this agreement, but who asserts that some particular provision hereof, because of peculiar circumstances, will create great and unavoidable hardship, may obtain the benefits hereof by signing this agreement and putting it into effect and then, in a petition approved by a representative trade association of his industry, or other representative organization designated by N.R.A., may apply for a stay of such provision pending a summary investigation by N.R.A., if he agrees in such application to abide by the decision of such investigation. This agreement is entered into pursuant to section 4(a) of the National Industrial Recovery Act and subject to all the terms and conditions required by sections 7(a) and 10(b) of that act.

Paragraphs 4 and 6 As Amended and Approved for the Canning Industry

(4) The maximum hours fixed in paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not apply to employees in establishments employing not more than two persons in towns of less than 2,500 population; nor to technical persons employed in their profession; nor to employees in executive or managerial capacities who now receive more than \$25.00 per week; nor to employees engaged wholly or partially in performing the functions of wholesale or retail distribution (not including those employees engaged in manufacturing or production operations) provided they are not employed more than 48 hours in any one week; nor to factory watchmen provided they are not employed more than 42 hours in any one week; nor to power-plant employees and repair men provided they are not employed more than 44 hours in any one week; nor to chauffeurs provided they are not employed more than 48 hours in any one week; nor to any worker or employee during the processing season for seasonal perishable products where the restriction of hours would cause loss or deterioration of raw materials. Population for the purposes of this agreement shall be determined by reference to the 1930 Federal Census.

(6) Food processors in California, Oregon and Washington (or in any other states having wage regulations), shall pay employees of the classes mentioned in paragraph (3) the rate of wages prescribed by Industrial Welfare Commissions of these states and shall comply with the regulations governing women labor prescribed by such commission, but in no event shall the minimum rate basis of wages paid to either male or female employees be less than 30 cents per hour.

In other sections of continental United States processors shall not pay any employee of the classes mentioned in paragraph (3) less than the following:

(a) In the north of and excluding Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona, and the four counties in Pennsylvania of York, Lancaster, Adams, and Franklin, in towns of over 250,000 population, 30 cents; in towns of less than 250,000, 25 cents.

(b) In the states of Maryland, Delaware and the four counties in Pennsylvania of York, Lancaster, Adams, and Franklin, in towns over 250,000 population, 27½ cents; in towns of less than 250,000, 22½ cents.

(c) In the south of and including Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona, in towns of over 250,000 population, 25 cents; in towns of less than 250,000, 20 cents.

(d) In the territory of Hawaii processors shall pay employees of the classes mentioned in paragraph (3) not less than the minimum rate for the same class of work on July 15, 1929.

(e) Where a piece work system is employed, the total wages of those employees must at least average the minimum wage for that region.

Population for the purpose of this agreement shall be determined by reference to the 1930 Federal Census.

USE OF TERMS "HEALTH FOOD" AND "HEALTHFUL"

In the Journal of the American Medical Association for August 5th the Association's Committee on Foods discusses "Health food" claims and the term "healthful." Its position with respect to these terms will be of interest to all canners, and the Committee's statement is accordingly reproduced below:

The term "health food" and equivalent claims or statements to the effect that a food gives or assures "health" are vague, misinformative and misleading. An adequate or complete diet and the recognized nutritional essentials established by the science of nutrition are necessary for "health," but "health" depends on many other factors than those provided by such diet or nutritional essentials. No one food is essential for "health"; there are no "health foods." Statements of well established nutritional or physiologic values of foods are permissible.

The term "healthful" is frequently encountered in food advertising. As used, it commonly means that the food described corrects a possible nutritive deficiency or some abnormal condition in such a manner as actively to improve health. It incorrectly implies that the food possesses unique (or unusual) health-giving properties. The term has a popular specific "health food" significance which makes its use in advertising misinformative and misleading.

"Healthful" and "wholesome" by dictionary definition have almost identical meanings; the former, however, intimates an *active* significance, whereas the latter signifies quality or condition. "Wholesome" indicates that a food so described is sound, clean, fit for consumption and free of any objectionable qualities; it is appropriate for characterizing foods fulfilling these qualifications and should replace "healthful" as used in food advertising.

REPORTS ON CANNING CROPS

Estimates on the probable production of corn, tomatoes and snap beans for canning and reports on the condition of these crops as well as lima beans, beets and kraut cabbage were issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics on August 10th. The reports follow.

Sweet Corn

Although acreage in 1933 is nearly 17 per cent larger than the small plantings of 1932, the indicated production for 1933, based upon condition of the crop on August 1, is about the same as the estimated production last year. The probable production for 1933, as indicated by August 1 condition, is only one-half the production in 1931 and is little more than three-fifths of the average production for the five years, 1927 to 1931, inclusive. A total production of 387,900 tons is indicated for 1933 compared with 386,930 tons in 1932 and 781,600 tons in 1931.

Condition of the crop on August 1, 1933, was 73.1 per cent compared with 80 per cent on August 1, 1932, and with a 10-year average of 77.8 per cent on the same date. A late planting season, succeeded by heat and drouth in New York, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Minnesota, have combined to reduce crop prospects in these areas and to offset more favorable conditions in other states.

State	Acreage		Production		Condition	
	1932	1933	1932	1933	Aug. 1, 1932	Aug. 1, 1933
	Acres	Acres	Tons	Tons	Pct.	Pct.
Maine	8,600	9,100	29,200	32,700	83	93
New Hampshire	620	6700	1,600	2,000	85	90
Vermont	750	850	61,800	1,700	85	70
New York	11,000	13,300	620,900	20,000	85	66
Pennsylvania	1,800	1,800	3,100	2,900	71	77
Ohio	8,800	9,000	617,600	14,400	89	58
Indiana	22,000	28,000	650,600	42,000	77	59
Illinois	35,000	44,000	691,000	83,600	78	66
Michigan	3,600	3,600	4,300	5,000	80	78
Wisconsin	2,400	4,500	65,500	9,900	78	76
Minnesota	33,500	30,200	693,800	72,500	86	82
Iowa	6,800	18,000	17,000	43,200	89	85
Nebraska	3,400	4,500	6,500	8,100	84	76
Delaware	2,000	2,000	63,600	4,400	80	85
Maryland	20,500	21,000	30,800	37,800	66	81
Tennessee	1,400	900	4,100	2,200	75	85
Other States b	2,760	2,410	5,530	5,500	78	80
U. S. Total	164,930	193,860	6386,930	387,900	80.0	73.1

a Revised.

b "Other States" include Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Oregon, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, and Wyoming.

Tomatoes

Based upon the reported condition of the crop on August 1, the forecast of production of tomatoes for manufacture is 11 per cent less than the estimated production of 1932 and is 17 per cent less than the 5-year average production for the period, 1927-1931. The August 1 condition indicates

a probable production of 1,065,620 tons in 1933 compared with 1,199,100 tons in 1932, 976,500 tons in 1931, and 1,757,600 tons in 1930.

A relatively unfavorable season has prevailed in many areas because of lateness in setting the plants and on account of the heat and lack of rainfall after the plants were set. Condition of the crop on August 1 was below the 10-year average condition for that date in all states except New Jersey, Iowa, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Colorado, and California.

State	Acreage		Production		Condition	
	1932 Acres	1933 Acres	1932 Tons	1933 Tons	Aug. 1, 1932 Pet.	Aug. 1, 1933 Pet.
New York	10,200	10,200	87,700	56,100	93	62
New Jersey	30,000	28,000	186,000	159,600	88	83
Pennsylvania	6,500	6,000	29,900	22,200	82	75
Ohio	9,300	11,000	60,400	55,000	91	72
Indiana	62,000	59,000	248,000	194,700	90	67
Illinois	5,400	5,300	17,300	18,000	92	67
Michigan	1,900	2,300	611,000	12,000	86	74
Iowa	5,300	5,100	611,100	24,000	89	85
Missouri	14,000	13,000	628,000	27,200	80	55
Delaware	10,000	11,300	45,000	39,000	82	78
Maryland	36,000	39,200	6154,800	149,000	81	78
Virginia	613,900	15,700	638,000	48,700	75	70
Kentucky	4,500	5,100	68,100	14,300	82	66
Tennessee	8,400	8,200	14,300	20,500	70	66
Arkansas	18,000	16,000	645,000	31,500	83	50
Colorado	2,300	1,700	10,800	13,400	96	88
Utah	3,000	3,450	24,600	29,700	82	78
California	29,950	23,200	6149,800	120,000	88	88
Other States b	9,160	9,110	627,800	29,520	75	71
U. S. Total	6280,410	274,000	61,190,100	1,065,620	85.3	71.0

a Revised.

b "Other States" include Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Snap Beans

According to August 1 reports on condition and probable yields per acre of snap beans for canning or manufacture, there is little change in the forecast of total production from that of July 15. Prospective production, based on August 1 condition, is 8.2 per cent below the small crop of 1932 and is nearly 47 per cent less than the average production for the five-year period preceding 1932.

During the latter half of July, crop prospects changed somewhat for individual states, but the net effect of these variations on total production was negligible. In New York, where a long period of drouth has prevailed, the crop further deteriorated to a point where an average yield of only 1 ton per acre is expected. Somewhat improved prospects, however, were reported from Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Delaware, Maryland, and Tennessee. Average condition of the crop on August 1, 1933, was 57.3 per cent compared with 72.4 per cent on August 1, 1932, and with a 10-year average of 75.4 per cent for the same date.

State	Acreage		Production		Condition	
	1932	1933	Tons	Tons	Aug. 1, 1932	Aug. 1, 1933
	Acres	Acres			Pct.	Pct.
Maine	510	510	1,200	1,300	81	98
New York	4,900	5,640	7,800	5,000	70	46
Pennsylvania	1,900	1,700	2,100	2,200	62	63
Indiana	1,000	1,200	1,200	800	64	38
Michigan	3,000	3,600	4,500	4,700	90	90
Wisconsin	3,600	3,600	5,000	5,800	75	80
Delaware	700	700	800	800	65	70
Maryland	6,000	6,600	7,200	8,600	61	63
South Carolina	600	450	500	300	35	22
Tennessee	900	1,040	1,100	900	98	48
Mississippi	1,700	1,440	1,400	400	60	10
Arkansas	1,300	1,000	1,200	500	62	26
Louisiana	850	540	1,000	500	74	60
Colorado	900	500	1,800	1,400	87	84
Utah	250	320	800	1,000	95	87
Washington	170	220	800	800	100	86
Oregon	200	200	1,000	800	85	97
California	240	230	900	900	75	86
Other States a	2,940	3,310	3,460	2,860	76	46
U. S. Total	31,600	32,800	43,760	40,100	72.4	57.3

a "Other States" include Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Condition of Other Crops

State	August 1, 1930	August 1, 1931	August 1, 1932	August 1, 1933
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
LIMA BEANS				
New Jersey	81	80	80	80
Delaware	78	85	83	82
Maryland	54	73	86	80
Virginia	55	82	79	80
Michigan	68	35	80	75
Other states	67	77	56	70
U. S. Average	68.7	74.1	76.3	78.7
BEETS				
New York	85	80	95	53
New Jersey	85	90	90	70
Indiana	75	88	90	60
Michigan	70	73	88	47
Wisconsin	70	53	72	72
Oregon	80	70	85	85
Other states	83	72	83	79
U. S. Average	80.9	67.6	85.0	64.6
KRAUT CABBAGE				
New York	...	...	92	48
Ohio	...	...	90	55
Indiana	...	...	94	60
Illinois	...	...	80	58
Michigan	...	...	94	75
Wisconsin	...	...	91	65
Minnesota	...	...	75	63
Colorado	...	...	85	80
Washington	...	...	82	88
Other states	...	...	77	72
U. S. Average	...	...	88.8	59.5

CANNED MILK PRODUCTION AND STOCKS

The following table gives the stocks and production (case goods) as reported to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by manufacturing firms operating 99 per cent of the total factories in the United States:

Manufacturers' stocks (case goods) July 1:	1933 Pounds	1932 Pounds	Change Per Cent
Evaporated (34 firms).....	104,087,783	212,430,726	-51.00
Condensed (7 firms).....	14,905,522	19,986,111	-24.98
Total production, June:			
Evaporated (33 firms).....	202,825,742	176,200,357	+15.11
Condensed (7 firms).....	5,172,525	5,001,900	+1.58

CANNED FOOD STOCKS ON JULY 1

A marked decrease in canners' stocks of seven principal canned foods on July 1, 1933, as compared with July 1, 1932, is shown by the quarterly survey made by the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Stocks of these foods in distributors' hands were nearly 5 per cent above those of a year ago, but this increase was due entirely to large stocks of peaches and a slight increase in holdings of corn. The report of the Foodstuffs Division follows.

The following figures collected at the request of the canning industry and trade by the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce compare stocks of seven principal canned foods in the hands of canners and distributors on July 1, 1933, with those held by the same firms on April 1, 1933, and July 1, 1932.

The figures are not total stocks for any item, but are comparative in that they represent the change in holdings based upon a cross section of the canners and of the distributors and are therefore representative of conditions in the industry and trade.

A marked decrease in canners' stocks from those held a year ago and a substantial movement during the second quarter are shown by the figures in the following table. Also, as compared with July 1, 1931, stocks of peas in canners' hands on July 1, 1933, represented a decrease of 76 per cent, corn an increase of 43 per cent, tomatoes a decrease of 60 per cent, green and wax beans a decrease of 48 per cent, peaches a decrease of 76 per cent, and pears a decrease of 49 per cent. No comparable pineapple figure for July 1, 1931, is available.

Distributors' stocks of the seven items covered by this survey were nearly 5 per cent above those of a year ago on July 1. The increase was due entirely to substantially large stocks of peaches and a slight increase in holdings of corn. The other items were smaller by from 1 to 12 per cent.

Despite large percentage increases in distributors' holdings of peaches and pineapple between April 1 and July 1, 1933, the total of the seven items decreased 4.5 per cent during the second quarter. This compares with a decrease of nearly 14 per cent during the second quarter of 1932.

There was apparently considerable buying of peaches and pineapple during the second quarter.

COMPARISON OF STOCKS OF SEVEN CANNED FOODS IN CANNERS' HANDS

(Based on reports from the same firms for each date)

Commodity	No. of firms reporting	Representative stocks, sold and unsold		Decrease, July 1, 1933, compared with July 1, 1932	
		July 1, 1933	July 1, 1932	Cases	Cases
Peas	118	a 595,894	a 1,757,316	1,161,422	66
Corn	136	2,241,210	4,780,757	2,539,577	53
Tomatoes	232	865,562	1,402,524	536,962	38
Green and wax beans	162	677,535	1,181,172	503,637	43
Peaches	55	795,325	3,711,635	2,916,310	79
Pears	50	352,636	694,369	341,733	49
Pineapple	6	958,672	3,937,596	2,978,924	76

Commodity	No. of firms reporting	Representative stocks, sold and unsold		Decrease, April 1, 1933, to July 1, 1933	
		July 1, 1933	April 1, 1933	Cases	Cases
Peas	118	a 595,894	2,001,292	1,405,398	70
Corn	136	2,241,210	4,522,888	2,281,678	50
Tomatoes	232	865,562	2,523,929	1,658,367	66
Green and wax beans	162	677,535	1,390,404	712,869	51
Peaches	55	795,325	2,438,684	1,643,359	67
Pears	50	352,636	923,709	571,073	62
Pineapple	6	958,672	3,096,045	2,137,373	69

a Old pack stocks only.

COMPARISON OF STOCKS OF SEVEN CANNED FOODS IN HANDS OF 440 DISTRIBUTORS
(Based on reports from the same firms for each date)

Commodity	Representative stocks		Decrease	
	July 1, 1933	July 1, 1932	Cases	Per cent
Peas	899,061	929,870	30,800	3.2
Corn	1,102,201	1,083,217	a 18,984	a 1.7
Tomatoes	752,116	853,242	101,126	11.8
Green and wax beans	448,957	493,755	44,798	0.1
Peaches	844,828	432,555	412,393	a 96.4
Pears	147,176	148,168	902	0.8
Pineapple	553,001	586,951	33,950	4.8
Total	4,747,340	4,527,738	a 780,308	a 4.8

Commodity	Representative stocks		Decrease	
	July 1, 1933	April 1, 1933	Cases	Per cent
Peas	899,061	1,024,330	125,260	12.2
Corn	1,102,201	1,149,332	47,131	4.1
Tomatoes	752,116	1,069,047	346,931	31.6
Green and wax beans	448,957	488,216	39,250	8.0
Peaches	844,828	641,550	a 203,260	a 31.7
Pears	147,176	170,687	23,511	13.9
Pineapple	553,001	598,872	a 553,001	a 38.6
Total	4,747,340	4,972,043	224,703	4.5

a Increase.

PACK OF CANNED SHRIMP

The following table shows, by months, the total number of cases of shrimp canned from August, 1929, to June, 1933, inclusive, as compiled by the Shrimp Section of the National Canners Association. The total pack of canned shrimp during the season August, 1930, through June, 1931, was 46,479 cases below the corresponding period of the previous year. During the season August, 1931 to June, 1932, the pack showed an increase of 33,892 cases over the preceding season. A decrease of 143 cases was reported for the season ended June, 1933, below that of the preceding season.

	1929-30 Cases	1930-31 Cases	1931-32 Cases	1932-33 Cases
August	250,643	151,934	161,579	82,215
September	167,647	154,657	187,470	142,955
October	162,381	156,912	139,358	150,158
November	70,240	72,435	68,062	61,827
December	35,505	53,216	41,869	23,992
January	35,505	40,267	26,648	12,316
February	33,403	28,042	32,325	42,971
March	9,024	13,342	58,280	19,124
April	27,935	18,831	49,401	36,057
May	10,115	65,869	48,370	52,730
June	34,220	53,087	28,724	65,839

OMISSION FROM MIMEOGRAPHED LETTER

In mimeographing the Association's letter of August 11 with reference to the opinion of our counsel on questions arising regarding prices for canned foods sold on future contract, a mechanical defect resulted in some copies not having the quotation in Paragraph 12 of the President's Reemployment Agreement in complete form. The complete text of the paragraph will be found in this number of the Information Letter.

BRITISH CANNED FRUIT IMPORTS AND PRODUCTION

During the past five years the annual supply of canned fruits in the United Kingdom has averaged about 7,500,000 cases, according to a report from the American Consulate General at London. The maximum in this period occurred last year, when the total supply amounted to about 9,500,000 cases.

The bulk of the supply consisted of imported apricots, peaches, pears, and pineapples, with smaller quantities of other fruits, but the output of the home canning industry forms an increasing proportion, and in 1932 probably accounted for as much as one-sixth of the aggregate.

At the close of 1932 there were 72 factories in England and Wales engaged in canning fruits and vegetables, and of these 52 were registered packers under the National Mark.

BACTERIAL CANKER CONTROL

According to information received from the Department of Agriculture, recent experiments indicate that the older method of extracting tomato seed, by placing the tomatoes in vats to ferment until the seeds are loosened from the pulp and discarded, is a more reliable disinfectant for bacterial canker disease than any commercial disinfectant. In recent years some canneries have been using high speed power machinery for extracting tomato seed from ripe tomatoes, but the experiments recently described suggest that seedsmen may have to go back to the fermentation process of extraction since this method seems to protect the seed from the bacterial canker contamination.

GOVERNMENT TOLERANCE OF ARSENIC, LEAD, AND FLUORINE

The Department of Agriculture has announced that the world's tolerance of 0.01 grains arsenic trioxide per pound of food will continue in effect during the season 1933.

In vegetables, the tolerance for lead is 0.014 grains per pound. In fruits, such as apples and peaches, the tolerance for lead for the present season is 0.02 grains per pound. The Department advises that those who are using lead arsenate on fruits during the present season should choose cleaning methods which are efficacious in the removal of lead as well as arsenic. The lead problem should be avoided entirely wherever possible by the choice of spray materials which do not contain lead.

In view of the fact that the substitution of fluorine compounds for arsenicals has been urged as a solution of the spray residue problem, the Department announces that there is adequate evidence to establish the deleterious character of certain fluorine compounds and reason to look with suspicion on all such compounds. The Department has therefore announced the tolerance of 0.01 grains of fluorine per pound in fruits and vegetables.

CALIFORNIA PEACH CANNERS SIGN AGREEMENT

The Department of Agriculture announced on August 11 the receipt of a telegram signed by 22 peach canning companies of California notifying the Agricultural Adjustment Administration that they had accepted the agreement after changes clarifying several sections had been authorized by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The agreement with these changes will be submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture for consideration on Monday, August 14.

GENERAL FREIGHT RATE REDUCTION REFUSED

The Interstate Commerce Commission on August 5th announced its decision, by a 7 to 3 vote, to refuse a general reduction in freight rates. The Commission thus sustained the position of the railroads as against producers of basic commodities who in March petitioned for a reduction of rates.

As the result of these petitions the Commission ordered a general investigation of freight rates, hearings being started in April. The National Canners Association was represented at the hearings and later submitted a brief on behalf of the industry. In this brief it took the position that reductions in rates for transporting canned foods should be included in any general reduction ordered by the Commission, and that, as canned foods are directly in competition with fresh fruits and vegetables, there should be no reduction in charges for transporting the latter without a corresponding reduction in regard to canned foods.

RASPBERRY GROWING IN NEW YORK STATE

The New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva has recently issued a bulletin on raspberry growing in New York State as Bulletin No. 625. The bulletin is illustrated and discusses in detail cultural practices such as preparation of soil and planting, fertilizing, pruning, harvesting, marketing, yields, the different varieties of red, black and purple raspberries, and the growth and spread of diseases affecting the berries, with particular attention to the mosaic disease, its effects and control.

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